

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01

HEW-06 IGA-01 /072 W

----- 021925

O R 171806Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1756

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4393

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: GOCR CHARGES US FINANCING OF LEFTIST
MOVEMENTS THROUGH INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

REF: SAN JOSE 4380 (NOTAL)

SAN JOSE 4065 (NOTAL)

1. LEADING SAN JOSE PAPERS LA NACION AND EXCELSIOR
FRONT PAGED AND SOME RADIO STATIONS CARRIED OCTOBER 17
PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT US "FINANCES LEFTIST MOVEMENTS
IN COSTA RICA" THROUGH INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION. ACCORDING TO
PRESS, PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE CITES FOUNDATION'S SUPPORT OF LEFTIST
WEEKLY PUEBLO AND SCHOOL FOR PLANNING AND SOCIAL PROMOTION AT
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY IN HEREDIA, "WHERE AGITATION IS REGULARLY
PRODUCED," ADDING THAT SOME LEFTIST "SOCIAL PROMOTERS"
FROM UNIVERSITY HAVE FOMENTED STRIKES--SPECIFICALLY IN QUEPOS
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BANANA AREA.

2. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT STATES THAT INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION IS FINANCED BY PUBLIC US FUNDS.

3. ALSO REPORTED WAS PUBLIC REFERENCE TO SAME CHARGES BY VICE PRESIDENT CASTILLO DURING HIS OCTOBER 14 SPEECH AT COSTA RICAN PRESS CLUB (SAN JOSE 4380 NOTAL), INCLUDING COMMENT THAT POLITICAL COUNSELOR OF US EMBASSY WHO WAS IN AUDIENCE DID NOT REPLY TO CASTILLO.

4. EXCELSIOR TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO ADD TO ABOVE COVERAGE REMINDER THAT ACCORDING TO RECENT INVESTIGATIONS IN US IT HAS BEEN REVEALED THAT CIA FINANCES PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER GROUPS.

5. EMBASSY PREPARING PRESS RELEASE STATEMENT PREVIOUSLY CLEARED WITH DEPARTMENT IN REFTEL (NOTAL) WHICH DESCRIBES FOUNDATION AS AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION OF THE USG THAT PROVIDES ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA. STATEMENT ALSO NOTES THAT FOUNDATION DOES NOT NEED APPROVAL OF EMBASSY OR ANY OTHER USG ORGANIZATION FOR ITS ACTIVITIES AND DID NOT OBTAIN IT IN CASE OF TWO GRANTS IN QUESTION.

6. VICE PRESIDENT CASTILLO CALLED CHARGE EVENING OCTOBER 16 TO INFORM HIM OF PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE STATEMENT WHICH, HE EXPLAINED, HE WAS FORCED TO PUT OUT TO EXPLAIN HIS REMARK ABOUT FOUNDATION DURING HIS LECTURE THE PREVIOUS NIGHT.

7. COMMENT: AS REPORTED IN PAST WEEKS, IAF L UPPOFT OF LEFTIST, ANTI-GOVERNMENT WEEKLY PUEBLO AND THE HEREDIA SCHOOL HAS RANKLED GOCR. IN VIEW THEIR PAST OVERTURES TO EMBASSY OFFICERS (SAN JOSE 4380 AND PREVIOUS), THEIR STATEMENT IS NOT SURPRISING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PRESS COMMENTS, GRANTS, SOCIAL CHANGE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO04393
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750361-0263
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751042/aaaabllm.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SAN JOSE 4380
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 SEP 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <18 FEB 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOCR CHARGES US FINANCING OF LEFTIST MOVEMENTS THROUGH INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, CS, US, INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION, PUEBLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006